

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Culbert et al.  
App. No : 10/623,193  
Filed : July 18, 2003  
For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
SPINAL FIXATION  
Examiner : Anuradha Ramana  
Art Unit : 3733  
Conf # : 2665

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Nathan S. Smith, Reg. No. 53,615

## AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

**Mail Stop AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The present amendment and remarks are in response to the Final Office Action dated August 2, 2007 and the Advisory Action dated November 21, 2007. Please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Summary of Interview** begins on page 8 of this paper

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.